Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK Of May 13, 2002 TO May 17, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Monthly Survey of Manufacturing ($ millions)	March			Canadian manufacturing shipments decreased 0.7% in March to $41.7 billion. The decrease was mostly due to motor vehicles and chemical products. This was partly offset by increased shipments in the petroleum and coal products industry, which reported growth of 14.5%. As well, shipments for the beverage and tobacco products industry were up by 7.1%. Alberta manufacturing shipments fell 0.1% in March due in part to a 5.9% drop in chemical shipments.
Alberta	3,210	-0.1%	-13.6%	
Canada	41,697	-0.7%	-5.5%	
New Motor Vehicle Sales	March			New motor vehicle sales in Canada fell by 3.8% in March. British Columbia (-10.5%), Manitoba (-9.5%) and Alberta (-6.9%) led the provinces in declines. Prince Edward Island (2.1%), New Brunswick (1.1%) and Nova Scotia (0.6%) were the only provinces to register gains. Sales in Canada were up 5.0% from March 2001; Alberta sales were up 5.3% over the same period.
Alberta	16,351	-6.9%	5.3%	
Canada	139,936	-3.8%	5.0%	
Travel between Canada and other countries ('000s)	March			Travel from Canada to other countries declined in March for the second straight month. 3.2 million Canadians travelled to other countries, which represented a 0.2% decrease from February and was significantly below pre-September 11 levels (-16.4%). About 9 out of 10 of those trips were to the US. Travel to Canada from other countries remained constant in March. A total of 3.8 million travellers came to Canada in March, the same as came in February, but 8.0% less than March 2001.
Canadian trips abroad	3,206	-0.2%	-13.8%	
Travel to Canada	3,806	0.0%	-8.0%	